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INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 15 MAY 50

SUBJECT The Iskra Factory for Electrical Equipment and Precision Machinery

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The Iskra factory for electrical equipment and precision machinery is located on the outskirts of Kranj, in Slovenia. Built during the war, this factory produced parts for precision machinery for the German Army, as well as parts for German V-1 and V-2 rockets.
2. All the machinery is practically new, but installation has not yet been fully completed. The factory has approximately 600 (sic) machines.
The [] equipment includes revolving lathes, shapers, universal and vertical milling cutters, mill cutters for gears, and grinders; [] automatic planers; and [] a relatively small number of precision drills and grinders.
3. Raw materials used in the factory are principally of Yugoslav origin. Only semi-finished articles such as radio-equipment, tubes, et cetera, are imported. The factory is equipped with its own foundry, but only aluminum casting is carried out; in the case of larger casting, the factory makes the molds and forwards them to Litostroj for casting. The factory generally receives the power to run its machines from the hydroelectric plant which supplies Kranj. When this supply is cut off, the factory has its own power plant, which is equipped with steam turbines and burns coal.
4. Production is very varied and consists principally of the following articles: wall clocks with pendulums and weights; electric meters; electric drills up to 13 millimeters; hand-operated grinding equipment; padlocks; movie projectors with sound equipment for standard (35 mm) and narrow (16 mm) film; sound boxes and amplifiers for radios; electrolytic rectifiers with selenium; and miscellaneous electrical equipment.
5. The capacity of the factory varies as to product. Thus, the production of wall clocks, serially produced, stands at 50 per day; electric meters up to 20 per day; electric drills up to 5 per day; grinding equipment up to 10 per day; padlocks up to 80 per day; movie projectors up to 5 per month; electrolytic rectifiers up to 10 per day.

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6. The factory works in three shifts, but, because of the shortage of skilled labor, only one shift works at full capacity. About 1,500 persons are employed, including administrative personnel. The majority of the labor force consists of Germans, either former prisoners of war who have remained in Yugoslavia or Germans brought in from the Soviet Zone of Germany.

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